

# Donor Profiles

profiles



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## Elizabeth Bloomer Nesvold

"With success there is a responsibility to give back," remarked Elizabeth Bloomer Nesvold about why she bestows annual gifts upon the Bearcats Athletics Department.

Nesvold continued, "Candidly, my biggest supporter is also one of the biggest advocates of the Athletics Department; my mother, Patty Bloomer, is the president of the Binghamton University Athletic Club. In addition, and importantly, I had some highly influential professors and administrators that made a huge investment in me with their time, teachings and talent. It is incumbent on the alumni to return the favor by giving back."



*Elizabeth Bloomer Nesvold*

A Political Science major who minored in Economics, Nesvold is the founder and Managing Partner of a boutique investment bank - Silver Lane Advisors - based in New York City. Silver Lane provides financial services companies with merger, acquisition, valuation and strategic advice. "Although I never played varsity sports beyond high school, I always had an interest in athletics. In my free time at BU, I played co-rec soccer and taught aerobics as a part time job for the Athletics Department," she said.

Nesvold also had a successful career before she started her own business. She spent 15 years at Berkshire Capital as an investment banker, and was a partner for 10 years. While Nesvold was there, she co-founded the firm's wealth management investment banking practice which was the first specialist M&A advisory group in that industry.

Nesvold believes there are ways, in addition to monetary contributions, that alumni can give back. "At Silver Lane, we just hired our first BU graduate as a full time analyst. He was one of two BU students we offered internships to in 2010, and he's hit the ground running. We have a returning BU intern supporting us this summer. If he continues to work hard, he'll be our second BU hire," she said.

When Nesvold's team hires employees, they use specific criteria to sift through the resumes and narrow the candidates. One criterion that weighs heavily on their consideration is a background in athletics or some form of campus leadership. "Investment banking is a demanding career," she said, "Being involved in athletics and excelling

academically is both physically and mentally challenging. This suggests the candidate is a team player, disciplined and well-rounded. These are traits that will enhance the likelihood of success in our industry."

In her spare time, Nesvold and her daughter support the "marathon" bug caught by her husband, also a financial executive. The family looks forward to attending athletic events at Binghamton University. "We've attended multiple basketball games with our 10-year old daughter, who was thrilled once to sit on the floor and nearly have a player fall in her lap," she said, "The Events Center is a first-rate facility, and I'm glad we're investing in the athletic department. In addition to enhancing the student experience, it raises the school's profile nationally and gives our alumni yet another reason to rally around the university."

Nesvold believes that if your dreams don't scare you then you're not dreaming big enough. "There aren't enough senior-ranking women in investment banking. BU gave me the tools to succeed in a demanding career, not just in academic endeavors," she said, "When I meet with student-athletes, it's clear that BU and, importantly, the Bearcats Athletics Department, gives its athletes the tools they need to be successful beyond the final game."

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